

## FOOTSTEPS OF GOD.

Rev. Dr. Talmage Finds His Imprint Everywhere.

### THE BEAUTIES OF NATURE

Furnish a Theme for a Powerful Sermon. Would Abolish All Creeds and Denominations.

Dr. Talmage in his discourse takes us with him on a journey to the Pacific and finds "the footsteps of the Creator" everywhere, as Hugh Miller found them in the old red sandstone; texts, Isaiah xxxv, 6, "Streams in the desert; Psalms civ, 32, "He toucheth the hills and they smoke."

My first text means irrigation. It means the waters of the Himalayas or the Pyrenees or the Sierra Nevada poured through canals and aqueducts for the fertilization of the valleys. It means the process by which the last mile of American barrenness will be made an apple orchard, or an orange grove, or a wheat field, or a cotton plantation, or a vineyard "strewn in the desert." My second text means a volcano like Vesuvius or Cotopaxi, or it means the geysers of Yellowstone park or of California. You see a hill calm and still and for ages immovable, but the Lord out of the heavens puts his finger on the top of it, and from it rise thick and impressive vapors. "He toucheth the hills and they smoke."

Although my journey was for the eighth time, more and more am I impressed with the divine hand in its construction and with its greatness and grandeur, and more and more am I thrilled with the fact that it is all to be irrigated, glorified and Edenized. What a change from the time when Daniel Webster on yonder Capitol hill said to the center of the continent and to the regions on the Pacific coast: "What do you want with this vast, worthless area, this region of savages and wild beasts, of deserts and cactus, of shifting sands and prairie dogs? To what use could we ever put these great deserts or these great mountains, impenetrable and covered with eternal snow? What can we ever hope to do with the wastes of desert, rock bound, cheerless, uninviting and not a habitation on it? I will never vote one cent from the public treasury to place the Pacific coast one inch nearer Boston than it now is." What a mistake the great statesman made when he said that! All who have crossed the continent realize that the states on the Pacific coast will have the same grand opportunities as the states on the Atlantic, and all this realm from sea to sea to be the Lord's cultivated possession.

Do you know what in some respects is the most remarkable thing between the Atlantic and Pacific? It is the figure of a cross on a mountain in Colorado. It is called the "Mount of the Holy Cross." A horizontal crevice filled with perpetual snow and a perpendicular crevice filled with snow, and both the horizontal line and the perpendicular line so marked, so bold, so significant, so unmistakable, that all who pass in the daytime within many miles are compelled to see it. There are some figures, some contours, some mountain appearances, that you gradually make out after your attention is called to them. So man's face on the crag of the White mountains. So a maiden's form cut in the granite of the Adirondacks. So a city in the moving clouds. Yet you have to look under the pointing of your friend or guide for some time before you can see the similarity. But the first instant you glance at this side of the mountain in Colorado, you cry out: "A cross! A cross! Do you say that? No. That cross on the Colorado mountain is not a human device or an accident of nature or the freak of an earthquake. The hand of God cut it there and set it up for the nation to look at. Whether set up in rock before the cross of wood was set up on the bluff back of Jerusalem or set up at some time since that in a nation, I believe that the cross on the Colorado mountain is the most notable event in all the history of this planet, and he hung it there over the heart of this continent to indicate that the only hope for this nation is in the cross on which our Immanuel died. The clouds were vocal at his martyrdom, why not the walls of Colorado bear the record of a cross? First, consider the immensity of this continental possession. If it were not only a small tract of land, capable of nothing better than sagebrush and with ability only to support prairie dogs, I should not have much enthusiasm in wanting Christ to have it added to his dominion. But its immensity and affluence no one can imagine unless in immigrant wagon or stagecoach or in rail train of the Union Pacific or the Northern Pacific or the Canadian Pacific or the Southern Pacific he has traversed it.

But while I speak of the immensity of the continent I must remark it is not an immensity of monotony or sameness. The larger some countries are the worse for the world. This continent is not more remarkable for its magnitude than for its variety of construction. Yosemite and the adjoining California regions. Who that has seen them can think of them without having his blood tinged? Trees now standing there that were old when Christ lived. These monarchs of foliage reigned before Caesar or Alexander, and the next 1,000 years will not shatter their receipt. They are the masters of the winds, their canvas spread on its way through the ages.

That valley of the Yosemite is eight miles long and a half mile wide and 3,000 feet deep. It seems as if it had been the meaning of Omnipotence to crowd into as small a place as possible some of the most stupendous scenery of the world. Some of the cliffs you do not stop to measure by feet, for they are literally a mile high. Steep so that neither foot of man nor beast ever scaled them, they stand in everlasting defiance. If Jehovah has a throne on earth, these are his white pillars. Standing down in this great chasm of the valley, you look up, and yonder is Cathedral rock, vast, gloomy minister built for the silent worship of the mountains. Yonder is Sentinel rock, 3,270 feet high, bold, solitary, standing guard among the ages, its top seldom touched until a bride one Fourth of July mounted it and planted the national standards, and the people down the valley looked up and saw the God of the mountain turbaned with stripes. Yonder are the Three Girls, 4,000 feet high; Clouds rest on their heads, and the heights beyond.

As soon as you get in Yellowstone park or California you have pointed out to you places cursed with names as "The Devil's Slide," "The Devil's Kitchen," "The Devil's Thumb," "The Devil's Pitchfork," "The Devil's Machine Shop," "The Devil's Gate" and so on. Now it is very much needed that a geological survey or congressional committee or group of distinguished tourists go through Montana and Wyoming and California and Colorado and

of mountains. Mountains flanked by mountains. Mountains split. Mountains ground. Mountains fallen. Mountains triumphant. As though Mount Blanc and the Adirondacks and Mount Washington were here uttering themselves in one magnificent chorus of rocks and precipice and waterfall. Sift and dashing through the rocks the water comes down. The Bridal Veil falls so thin you can see the face of the mountain behind it. Yonder is Yosemite falls, dropping 2,634 feet, 16 times greater descent than that of Niagara. These waters dashed to death on the rocks, so that the white spirit of these slain waters ascending in robe of mist seeks the heavens. Yonder is Nevada falls, plunging 700 feet, the water in arrows, the water in rocks, the water in pearls, the water in anemones, the water in diamonds. That cascade flings down the rocks enough jewel to array all the earth in beauty and rushes on until it drops into a very hell of the water, the smoke of their torment ascends forever and ever.

Wide reaches of stone of intermingled colors, blue as the sky, green as the foliage, crimson as the dahlia, white as the snow, spotted as the leopard, tawny as the lion, grizzly as the bear, in circles, in angles, in stars, in coronets, in stalactites, in stalagmites. Here and there are petrified growths, or the dead trees and vegetables of natural burial. In some places waters are innocent and smiling as a child making a first attempt to walk from its mother's lap, and not far off as foaming and frenzied and ungovernable as a maniac in struggle with his keepers.

But after you have wandered along the geyseric enchantment for days and begin to feel that there can be nothing more of interest to see you suddenly come upon the peroration of all majesty and grandeur, the Grand Canyon. It is here that it seems to me—and I speak it with reverence—Jehovah seems to have surpassed himself. It seems a great gulch let down into the eternities. Here, hung up and let down and spread abroad, are all the colors of land and sea and sky. Upholding the roof of the world, the Architect of the Universe, the Sculptor by the Infinite, the Mason by an Omnipotent trowel. Yellow! You never saw yellow unless you saw it there. Red! You never saw red unless you saw it there. Violet! You never saw violet unless you saw it there. Triumphant banners of color. In a cathedral of basalt, sunrise and sunset married by the setting of rainbows, the work of the Architect of the Universe, the Sculptor by the Infinite, the Mason by an Omnipotent trowel. Yellow! You never saw yellow unless you saw it there. Red! You never saw red unless you saw it there. Violet! You never saw violet unless you saw it there. Triumphant banners of color. In a cathedral of basalt, sunrise and sunset married by the setting of rainbows, the work of the Architect of the Universe, the Sculptor by the Infinite, the Mason by an Omnipotent trowel. Yellow! You never saw yellow unless you saw it there. Red! You never saw red unless you saw it there. Violet! You never saw violet unless you saw it there. Triumphant banners of color. In a cathedral of basalt, sunrise and sunset married by the setting of rainbows, the work of the Architect of the Universe, the Sculptor by the Infinite, the Mason by an Omnipotent trowel.

### A DASTARDLY MURDER.

Mrs. J. O. Atkinson Assassinated From Ambush.

The news of the tragic assassination from ambush of Mrs. J. O. Atkinson was brought to the city last night by traveling men who were at Edgefield Court House where the crime was perpetrated. They say that the excitement in Edgefield village and the surrounding country is very great and if the assassin is found he will be dealt with in a manner that will not add to the court calendar. The story as gained from traveling men is as follows: The assassination occurred Tuesday night on the Martintown road, in a remote part of the county. Mrs. Atkinson was in Augusta Tuesday with her husband. They transacted their business and left for their home about dark. Their home is in Edgefield county, thirteen miles from Augusta and fourteen miles from Edgefield Court House. Mr. and Mrs. Atkinson were driving quite slowly. They had proceeded up a slight hill and were descending on the other side when from a group of blackjacks bushes a gun was fired. Mrs. Atkinson gave vent to a scream of apparent pain and fright. The shot had been fired at very close range.

Mr. Atkinson threw his arm about his wife and felt blood falling on his hand. He then noticed that Mrs. Atkinson had apparently swooned. He threw both arms about her and lowered her to the seat of the vehicle. She was dead in a few seconds. The load was No. 2 bird shot, fired at close range from apparently a shotgun, that the shot did not have opportunity to scatter, striking the lady in a clump in the neck, reaching vital points, and producing death almost instantaneously. As soon as possible, Mr. Atkinson gave the alarm. In two hours and a half Edgefield county was on the hunt for the cowardly and craven assassin or assassins who was or were guilty of this dastardly deed.

There is absolutely no clue so far as can be learned. Mr. Atkinson, of course, gave his attention to the bushes after the shot, he would not have noticed it. The officers and citizens beat about all night, making the most diligent inquiry that some clue, some trail of the assassin might be secured. They have not, so far as learned, been in the least successful. The bands, who are still roaming over the country, are determined to leave no stone unturned. The assassination was so heinous, so brutal, that the cry of vengeance is heard. All that the possessors desire is to get hold of the assassin and to be sure that he is the right man. The deceased was a woman of lovely character, of handsome mien, a good wife and the mother of several children. She is about 35 years of age. Her home is one of the happiest in the south. Mr. Atkinson is well-to-do, a farmer, an honorable and splendid gentleman. This terrible affair that has come into his life is wringing his heart with anger and grief. There is no suspicion. It is taken that the assassin aimed his deadly fire at Mr. Atkinson.—Columbia Record.

**Sealed to Death.** The torpedo boat Davis which started on its official trial trip Thursday was disabled by the bursting of a number of boiler tubes. Eight of the crew were badly scalded, and three of them died soon after reaching Astoria, Ore. The ship was commanded by Lt. Lathrop, U. S. Navy. The seriously injured, W. Woods, B. Ryan, A. Johnson, A. Buehl, Luthie was a coal passer and Woods superintendent of the boiler room. The others were firemen. The accident occurred in the Columbia river, about 20 miles above this city. The nature of the explosion has not been known, and the examination of the boilers will be required to determine exactly what part of the boilers burst. The best theory obtainable is that some of the tubes of the outward boiler exploded owing to a derangement of the automatic water gate which permitted the water to get too low. Excepting for the havoc wrought in the boiler room the boat is uninjured. The Thursday night the boat injured men died, making a total of seven dead.

## THE ROLL OF HONOR.

Difficult to get a Roster of Confederate Regiments.

### SOUTH CAROLINA RESERVES.

Colonel Thomas Desires to Get the Rolls of all the Companies that Were Called Out.

Col. Thomas, State historian, has issued the following appeal for information concerning several missing military records: To All Whom it May Concern: The undersigned, having virtually completed the work of collecting the Confederate rolls proper, now desires to make the war record of South Carolina more comprehensive by adding to the rolls thus far received, of the State troops, known as reserves, called to service 1861-63. He proposes further to make more full the roster of what may be designated as the general staff—engineers, surgeons, quartermasters, commissaries and chaplains, as well as ordnance officers, not attached to regiments, battalions or brigades. In the matter of the general staff, the State historian has received the valuable aid of the Rev. Dr. Johnson, of Charleston, S. C., formerly the distinguished major of engineers, C. S. A., to whom additional names may be sent of such men as came under the title of the "general staff." There were about eight regiments of reserves or State troops, making 80 companies. There are now on file in this office about 30 companies of this class. These additional rolls now called for must be handed in by November 15th next, when it is proposed to close the record and make up the report for the general assembly of 1899. John P. Thomas.

In making out the muster rolls of the regiment to be disbanded from the volunteer army, five copies are made. One for the war department, two for the paymaster, one for the adjutant general of the State and one for the regimental adjutant. So in future years there will be no trouble to obtain records of those who served. Pity it is, but 'tis true that the rolls and records of those who made the most glorious struggle in the world's history are very hard to obtain. The State historian, Col. Jno. P. Thomas, has had much difficulty in getting rolls of those from South Carolina who served in the Confederacy, and the time will come when these records cannot be found unless they are sent in now. Following is a list of company rolls recently received by Col. Thomas.

Additional State Guards.  
Companies A and B, Battalion State Cadets, Citadel.  
Companies A and B, Battalion State Cadets, Arsenal.  
South Carolina College-Cadets.  
Spartan Rangers.  
Stono Scouts.  
St. Helena Mounted Riflemen.  
Greenville Home Guard.  
Marion True Blues.  
Capt. Percival's company of Mounted Men.  
Capt. Russell's company of Detailed Men and Boys.  
St. Paul's Home Guard.  
Capt. Keating Simons' company—independent.  
Edgefield Reserves—Abney.  
Company A, State Guards.  
Company A, Capt. Holmes, regiment not named.  
Company A, Capt. Hipp, regiment not named.  
Company I, Capt. Brooks, regiment not named.  
Company A, Capt. Holman, regiment not named.  
Company A, Capt. Smith, regiment not named.  
Company I, Capt. Brooks, regiment not named.  
Company A, Capt. Holman, regiment not named.  
Company A, Capt. Smith, regiment not named.  
Company I, Capt. Brooks, regiment not named.

### THE NEXT CONGRESS.

The New York Journal prints a conservative estimate of results in every State which show a working majority for the Democratic party in the next congress. The figures have been prepared, after a careful canvass, from inside information, received by the Democratic congressional committee at Washington, and compiled by an attaché, who came within three of forecasting the Republican majority in the last congress. These figures elect a Democratic congress this fall by a majority of seventeen majority. A summary of the Fifty-sixth congress gives 61 doubtful votes. Of these, if 41 are conceded to the Republicans and 20 to the Democrats, the result will be 170 Republicans and 133 Democrats. Now, if the Republicans carry all the doubtful districts and the opposition the districts credited to them, the next house would stand Republicans, 190; opposition, 167—total 357—a Republican majority of 23. This is not regarded as possible, and by the method of figuring with the present information in hand, Secretary Kern cannot see how the Republicans can win. "We have them on the run," says Kern, "and cannot lose the next house." Here is the New York Journal's table:

A conservative summary of the Fifty-sixth congress is as follows:  
Democrats ..... 150  
Populists ..... 13  
Silver Republicans ..... 4  
Total ..... 167  
Republicans ..... 129  
Doubtful ..... 61  
Total ..... 190  
Grand total ..... 357  
Of the 61 doubtful the chances favor the Republicans in 41 districts and the Democrats in 20. If it splits that way the next house would stand:  
Republicans ..... 170  
Opposition ..... 187

### AN IMPRUDENT DECISION.

The News and Courier, of the 30th ultimo, gives an abridgement of a very important decision, relating to street paving, which affects all municipalities of the State. We can give no more than a brief statement. It seems that the city council of Greenville levied upon a citizen an assessment of two-thirds the costs of laying a sidewalk which the citizen had obtained in the circuit court a perpetual injunction, restraining the city council from collecting the assessment.

On appeal to the supreme court the decision of the circuit court was affirmed. The following is the conclusion:

In concluding Mr. Pope says: "This court has announced that this State has repudiated and still continues to repudiate the doctrine of supposed benefits to owners of lots of land abutting on public streets in levying taxes, and we are now satisfied that such former decision when it upheld assessments made upon owners of lots abutting on streets when improved sidewalks and drains are constructed was wrong and should be reversed, as opposed to our present Constitution."

The white man is weary of bad rule by negro votes. He is becoming dreadfully restive under the outrage and animosity. Of 46 States, our own is the only one cruelly, destructively dominated by wicked, vicious, degraded black bosses. This will be stopped or it will be known why.

It is no trouble to find that Wilmington means to be free. The millions of property here cannot be wantonly, wickedly sacrificed to give place for grub to incompetent and offensive Negroes. This is more than will be longer submitted to. Think of 5 per cent. of taxpayers governing and taxing 95 per cent. of taxpayers. It is an outrage and disgrace beyond all tolerance or comparison. The white men will protest and the negroes will protest. The white men will quietly submit and let the five use the Negroes for the spoil and ruin of a city. That is indeed breaking the submissive camel's back. Do not put that last feather on or something heavy may be heard to "drop."

This goodly city settled by white men is to be henceforth governed by white men. Let that be understood and any combination of circumstances Negro rule shall continue here, there are some people who will be sternly held responsible for the disgrace and affliction. A word to the wise ought to be sufficient. But there is none so blind but the one who will not see. If Negro rule were fixed for two years after the first of January next, many a good the law-abiding citizens, and no reward is necessary as an incentive to make men try to find the fiend incarnate who, from ambush, killed a woman. The people in Edgefield are said to be terribly aroused and determined to avenge the murder.—Columbia State.

### OFFERS A REWARD.

Gov. Ellerbe has offered a \$350 reward for the arrest of the party or parties who so foully assassinated Mrs. J. O. Atkinson in Edgefield Tuesday night, the harrowing details of which find their way to the public mind. Wherever the news of that terrible tragedy has reached, it has stirred the feelings of the law-abiding citizens, and no reward is necessary as an incentive to make men try to find the fiend incarnate who, from ambush, killed a woman. The people in Edgefield are said to be terribly aroused and determined to avenge the murder.—Columbia State.

THE EMPIRE OF THE SOUTH.—One of the handsomest publications we have seen is entitled "The Empire of the South. Its Resources and Resorts." This beautiful book has just been published by the Southern Railway. Its author, Mr. Frank Presby, was for many months engaged in the collection and preparation of the material for this work, and he has succeeded in doing valuable service for the south as well as the Southern Railway. A more complete exposition of the resources of the great region east of the Mississippi and south of the Ohio and Potomac rivers has not been published. The book is printed, illustrated and bound in very handsome style, and would make an ornament for any library or a valuable reference for any traveler. It is a store house of information for all who desire to know what the south is, what the south has and what its prospects are.

### COME AND SEE IT!

We will exhibit at the State Fair to be held here Nov. 13th to 19th, in operation a

COMPLETE MURRAY WINNING SYSTEM.

built by Liddell Co., Charlotte, N. C. This will afford all interested an opportunity of seeing the most modern and complete of Ginning Machinery. You can't afford to miss it.

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THE CITY BY THE SEA.

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Business College

## BOTH SIDES ARMING.

Trouble Expected in North Carolina on Election Day.

### SOME VERY PLAIN TALK.

What the Wilmington and Charlotte Papers Say About the Situation. The Whites Will Win.

It is reported in our Charleston correspondence that the hardware houses of that city are "filling large orders for arms and ammunition for white people in Wilmington and other cities of eastern North Carolina to defend themselves in case of negro outbreaks of violence in the November election." The Wilmington papers say that the negroes there are also arming; in fact, they have printed an order for arms sent by negroes to a northern manufacturing firm and forwarded by them to their agents in that city.

The following editorial from the Wilmington Messenger of Thursday shows the critical tension of affairs there:

There is nothing truer in history or politics than that the white men of Wilmington are resolved to continue to be white and free and independent of the negroes. They have been terrorized and oppressed by the fellow "in black" just as long as they intend to be. Sooner than submit to past conditions and have continued present conditions, they will make it very hot for all transgressors and offenders. This is not bluster, but plain fact. The man who does not know this is either blind or a fool. The white race from the dawn of civilization and the beginning of historical records to now has been the ruling race. All that is worth the name of civilization, progress, humanity, benevolence, mercy, justice, righteousness, wisdom, power, have come from the white man. The Negro has not been remotely in it. He is barbarian in his native woods and wilds. He is not very much improved in the "land of the free and home of the brave" after 300 years of tutelage and association and example and government of the whites. He is barbaric deep down in his nature. Arouse his evil passion and he is hardly better than his kind beyond seas in the deep jungles of the Black continent.

The white man is weary of bad rule by negro votes. He is becoming dreadfully restive under the outrage and animosity. Of 46 States, our own is the only one cruelly, destructively dominated by wicked, vicious, degraded black bosses. This will be stopped or it will be known why.

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